

# Wichita State University: Self-Help Network

## **Organization Description**

Wichita State University's Self Help Network (SHN), which will administer the CCF grant, is a nationally recognized Center for Community Support and Research at the Department of Psychology at the University. With 20 years of experience, SHN has assisted, supported, and researched self-help groups, grassroots organizations, and non-profit organizations in creating and sustaining positive change.

## **Project Description**

The Self-Help Network will administer the Compassion Kansas initiative to build and enhance the capacity of Kansas faith-based and community organizations (FBCOs) to better serve Kansans in need. Compassion Kansas will assist these organizations to increase their effectiveness and enhance their ability to provide social services through direct technical assistance, professional training, and sub-awards.

## **Geographic Scope of Project**

The state of Kansas

## **Partnering Organizations**

- United Methodist Health Ministry Fund
- Kansas Health Foundation

## **Sub-Awards**

The Compassion Kansas sub-award process will provide approximately 18 sub-awards, totaling \$135,000.00 in the first year. Eligible FBCOs must be small social service agencies

in the State of Kansas that serve (or plan to serve) the homeless, elders in need, at-risk youth, families in transition from welfare to work, those in need of intensive rehabilitation such as addicts or prisoners, and organizations that focus on marriage enhancement. Priority will be given to organizations that have not historically received federal funding.

## **Project Objectives**

1. Enhancing and expanding the knowledge base of Kansas FBCOs;
2. Providing technical assistance, professional training, and sub-awards to 18 Kansas FBCOs;
3. Encouraging and facilitating replication of appropriate models and best practices with FBCOs;
4. Assisting FBCOs in seeking additional funding sources to sustain their new successful practices;
5. Determining the extent to which the Compassion Kansas initiative achieved its intended outcomes.

## **Project Strategies**

- Identify FBCOs' needs and strengths;
- Increase FBCOs' capacity and ensure sustained change;
- Provide multiple opportunities to increase FBCOs' knowledge and skills, connect with one another, diversify their funding, and develop their services;
- Issue sub-awards, through a fair and competitive application process, to increase FBCOs' organizational effectiveness.

## **PROJECT DIRECTOR:**

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## **Grant Award Amount**

\$526,766